



KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION

FEBRUARY BOARD NOTES

Volume 18, No. 1 -- Report of the February 10, 2010, Regular Meeting

COMMENTS FROM JOE BROTHERS, KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION CHAIR



At the Kentucky Board of Education's February 10th meeting, the board officially adopted, by incorporation into state regulation, the preliminary draft of the Common Core Standards in English/language arts and mathematics. Note that if any substantive changes occur in the standards, the document will come back to the board at its April meeting. Later that evening, the Kentucky Board of Education, the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Education Professional Standards Board met jointly in an historic meeting to adopt a resolution that directed the staffs of their respective agencies to implement the final Kentucky Core Academic Standards (Common Core Standards in English/language arts and mathematics) into their work and processes.

These standards, developed through a process led by America's states and territories, will be higher, clearer and more relevant for students. Everyone – educators, parents, students, citizens – will know what students are expected to learn. The standards will be consistent nationwide, ensuring that students learn the same concepts and skills, no matter where they live.

These actions meet the mandates of Senate Bill 1, passed by the 2009 General Assembly, to revise Kentucky's academic standards to:

- focus on critical knowledge, skills and capacities needed for success in the global economy

- result in fewer, but more in-depth standards to facilitate mastery learning
- communicate expectations more clearly and concisely to teachers, parents, students and citizens
- be based on evidence-based research
- consider international benchmarks
- ensure that the standards are aligned from elementary to high school to postsecondary education so that students can be successful at each education level

The real work in this project must now occur in the classroom. Our teachers will need support and training to successfully implement the standards. The Kentucky Department of Education will begin this training soon. All stakeholders need to join together to support the standards work.

This is a significant and historic opportunity for Kentucky to accelerate toward the ultimate goal of all children graduating from high school ready for college, work and success in the global economy.

STATE BOARD GIVES FINAL APPROVAL TO 704 KAR 3:303, REQUIRED CORE ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND 704 KAR 3:305, MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

At the February 10, 2010, meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education gave final approval to 704 KAR 3:303, Required Core Academic Standards. The document, formally called the *Program of Studies for Kentucky Schools, Grades Primary-12*, is now to be known as the “Kentucky Core Academic Standards” and the mathematics and English/language arts content in the current *Program of Studies* was replaced with the new Common Core Standards developed in collaboration with other states in order to implement changes required by Senate Bill 1. Since the standards are still to be finalized through feedback from the participating states, the board approved the regulation with the understanding that the final version of the standards would come back to the board in April for consideration if substantive changes occur.

The board also gave final approval to 704 KAR 3:305, Minimum requirements for high school graduation. Revisions to 704 KAR 3:305 were made to ensure that it reflects the new standards consistent with 704 KAR 3:303 (the regulation referenced above), provide guidance and clarity on high school mathematics requirements and require a transitional course for any student not meeting benchmarks set by the Council on Postsecondary Education in mathematics and English/language arts.

For more information on these two regulations, contact Felicia Smith at (502) 564-9850 or via e-mail at Felicia.Smith@education.ky.gov.

WAIVER REQUEST OF THE MARCH 1 SCHOOL COUNCIL ALLOCATION DATE APPROVED AND PERMANENT CHANGE OF MARCH 1 DATE DISCUSSED

Due to the circumstances of budget uncertainty, the Kentucky Board of Education approved the waiver for school districts to move the March 1, 2010, deadline for allocating funds to school

councils to May 1, 2010. This flexibility provides more time before the allocation must be sent to councils.

The board also reviewed 702 KAR 3:246, School council allocation formula, to consider permanently moving the school council allocation deadline to May 1. Final action on this regulation will occur at the April meeting.

For more information on the waiver and regulation, contact Kay Kennedy at (502) 564-3930 or via e-mail at Kay.Kennedy@education.ky.gov.

CHANGES TO 702 KAR 3:030, INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS APPROVED

In response to questions and concerns from local school districts and partner agencies regarding the purchase of district insurance coverage and current regulatory requirements, the board approved the following revisions to 702 KAR 3:030:

- Allow school districts an alternative method for determining 100% replacement cost for a building and its contents;
- Allow determination of replacement cost to be based on a certified replacement cost appraisal;
- Include in the calculation of replacement cost minimum sub-limits in the areas of ordinance and law (\$5M), debris removal (\$1M) and extra expense (\$5M) to ensure coverage of these elements;
- Change the coinsurance term from minimum to maximum;
- Allow districts to hold down costs by increasing the per occurrence deductible to \$25,000. Although this is a higher maximum limit, districts would not be required to increase their per occurrence deductibles to that level if they are more comfortable with a lower amount.

For more information on this regulatory change, contact Dr. Larry Stinson at (502) 564-5130 or via e-mail at Larry.Stinson@education.ky.gov.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED BY THE BOARD AT THE FEBRUARY 10 MEETING WERE:

- Minutes from the December 9-10, 2009, and January 15, 2010, meetings
- 703 KAR 5:060, Interim assessment process (Final)
- Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) Advisory Board Appointment of Jayne Seif
- District facility plans for Owsley County and Anchorage and Burgin Independents
- 2009-2010 Local District Tax Rates Levied
- 2009-2010 Local District Working Budgets
- Commissioner of Education's goals for evaluation purposes

***OTHER ITEMS REVIEWED BY THE BOARD AT THE FEBRUARY 10 MEETING
WITH NO ACTION TAKEN WERE:***

- Audit update and review of the commissioner's and board's expenses
- 2008-2010 Current budget reductions update and 2010-2012 biennial budget process update for the KBE Audit Committee
- Legislative Agenda
- 704 KAR 3:540, Uniform Academic Course Codes
- Hearing Officer's Report
- KDE Employment Report

BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2010 AND 2011

KBE MEETING DATES 2010

<u>2010</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
April 13-14, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
May 18-19, 2010	KBE retreat/strategic plan discussion	Frankfort
June 9-10, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 4-5, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
October 6-7, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 8-9, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort

KBE MEETING DATES 2011

<u>2011</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
February 2-3, 2011	Regular meeting	Frankfort
March 2, 2011	Regular meeting	Available hotel, Owensboro
April 13-14, 2011	Regular meeting	Frankfort
May 11-12, 2011	KBE retreat/strategic plan discussion	Frankfort
June 8-9, 2011	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 3-4, 2011	Regular meeting	Frankfort
September 14, 2011	Regular meeting	Cumberland Falls State Park, Corbin, KY
October 5-6, 2011	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 7-8, 2011	Regular meeting	Frankfort

The actions described above were taken in open session of the Kentucky Board of Education at the February 10, 2010, regular meeting conducted in the State Board Room, Capital Plaza Tower, 1st Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky. This information is provided in summary form, and an official record of the meeting is available on tape in the permanent records of the Kentucky Board of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. These records are open for inspection Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For additional information about the Kentucky Board of Education meetings, agendas, minutes or special accommodations needed for attending meetings, contact Mary Ann Miller, Policy Advisor, at (502) 564-3141.

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